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SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT 'ILIAHI, HAWAIIAN SANDALWOOD.

WHEREAS, 'Iliahi, or Hawaiian Sandalwood, is an endemic and endangered native Hawaiian tree; and

WHEREAS, 'Iliahi species have many medicinal and ornamental uses, and the wood of 'Iliahi trees has been prized and harvested for centuries; and

WHEREAS, 'Iliahi wood was exported from Hawaii in great amounts during the early 1800s, nearly making these native species extinct; and

WHEREAS, losing the few remaining native 'Iliahi trees in Hawaii would be a great tragedy and a loss of Hawaiian history and culture; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Department of Land and Natural Resources is to "enhance, protect, conserve and manage Hawaii's unique and limited natural, cultural and historic resources held in public trust for current and future generations of the people of Hawaii nei, and its visitors, in partnership with others from the public and private sectors"; and

WHEREAS, protecting endangered native 'Iliahi trees is, without question, part of the department's mission; and

WHEREAS, there remains a market for the export of native 'Iliahi wood, and this contributes to the threat of extinction of 'Iliahi trees; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to take action to protect the remaining native 'Iliahi trees; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2015, that the Department of Land and Natural Resources is urged to establish a comprehensive program for protecting native 'Iliahi trees; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Land and Natural Resources is urged to invest in efforts to replant 'Iliahi trees so that these endangered native species thrive once again in Hawaii; and

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13 14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Governor and the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.